

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 7

11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, Kansas 66219

MAR 2 7 2014

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ed Smith, Safe Energy Director Missouri Coalition for the Environment 6267 Delmar Blvd. 2-E St. Louis MO 63130

Dear Mr. Smith:

In response to your letter dated March 13, 2014, please be assured that this agency is working with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to secure Corps expertise that supports the EPA's mission at the West Lake Landfill site.

After carefully considering the February 28, 2014, recommendation from Congressional representatives, I have recently spoken with Colonel Christopher Hall, commanding the St. Louis District of the Army Corps of Engineers, about ways in which the Corps can assist the EPA with project technical assistance and construction management services. While EPA does not have authority to designate the West Lake Superfund Site as a FUSRAP, this agency intends to utilize the expertise that the Corps has developed in their cleanup of the SLAPs sites in St. Louis.

In response to your other recommendations, as the Corps' role in supporting EPA's work at this site is defined, I will update the CAG and the community, as well as the elected officials who are interested in this site.

As the supplemental feasibility study work continues to assess options for addressing the site, the information provided by Dr. Criss in his March 15, 2013, report will be considered.

Corps assistance at West Lake will strengthen the EPA's ability to carry out site work during various phases through long term remedy selection. The scope of assistance reflects the priority tasks, so at this stage, isolation barrier construction by the potentially responsible parties, under EPA's order, will be first priority.

Karl Brooks

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